PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES (PSSF) Title IV-B, Part 2

Purpose

The Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) program is part 2 of Title IV-B of the Social Security Act. The purpose of the funding is to:

- prevent child maltreatment among families at risk through the provision of supportive family services
- assure children's safety within the home and preserve intact families in which children have been maltreated, when the family's problems can be addressed effectively
- address the problems of families whose children have been placed in foster care so that reunification may occur in a safe and stable manner in accordance with the Adoption and Safe Families Act of 1997
- support adoptive families by providing support services as necessary so that they can make a lifetime commitment to their children

Scope of Services

Under PSSF, a state must spend a minimum of 20% of PSSF funds on each of the following types of services, unless the state receives a waiver of this requirement

- Community-based family support services
- Family preservation services
- □ Time-limited family reunification services
- Adoption promotion and support services

Federal Funding

lowa's FY 02 budget assumed \$1.768 M in federal PSSF funding.

State Match

- □ The state must provide a 25% match to receive PSSF funds.
- □ State must be able to demonstrate maintenance of effort.

Iowa's PSSF Program – FY 2001 and 2002

Iowa's plan for the PSSF program is included in our Title IV-B State Plan.

- □ Iowa has approval to waive the requirement to spend 20% of PSSF funds on family preservation services, because Iowa has family centered and family preservation services available statewide.
- □ Funds for adoption promotion and support services have been used for statewide activities.
- Funds for community-based family support services, and time-limited family reunification services have been awarded to local communities/providers
 - In FY 2001, funds were awarded through a competitive grant process
 - In FY 2002, funds were allocated to decat projects based on child population, with a minimum award for each decat

FY 2003 Proposal for PSSF

The Governor's FY 2003 budget proposes to:

- Use a portion of the community-based family support dollars to fund the Child Abuse Prevention Grant program
- □ Use the PSSF adoption promotion and support dollars to fund adoption recruitment and other statewide adoption support activities
- □ Allocate the time-limited family reunification dollars and a portion of the community-based family support dollars to local clusters
- Again waive the requirement to spend a portion of family preservation services

Impact of PL 107-133 on the PSSF Program

- Under PL 107-133, Congress reauthorized the PSSF program, and authorized increases of \$200 M a year for 5 years, but leaves annual decisions about funding up to the Appropriations Committee
- Congress approved a \$70 M increase for federal FY 2002 at this point, we have not received official notice of our share of the increase or instructions on any new requirements